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CLASSIFICATION

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT

TOPIC Soviet Troops in Plauen

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE PREPARED

3 May 1951

50X1-HUM

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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- Between 22 and 24 March 1951, the Koenig Georg Kaserne in Plauen (M 51/K 12) still quartered 250 to 500 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets. About two-thirds of them were recruits. Gun drill with eight 75-mm AT guns, and four 122-mm field howitzers was held almost daily. Eight 122-mm field howitzers left the installation on one day. Training included intensive field training outside the installation and athletic activities. Maintenance work on 20 three-axle trucks was done in the barracks yard. Vehicles identified at the installation included 5 three-axle prime movers of 122-mm field howitzers, 9 trucks, prime mover of a 57-mm AT gun; prime movers all of 75-mm AT guns; passenger car occupied by a field-grade officer with red-bordered black epaulets; passenger cars driven by soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets; passenger car trucks driven by soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets; and bus.
- The Hindenburg Kaserne was still occupied by 800 to 1,000 troops, mostly recruits, who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. Drill with two 45-mm AT guns, two 80-mm mortars, two 120-mm mortars and a heavy AA machine gun, and close-combat and close-order drill were held. About 40 motor vehicles, five or six 57-mm AT guns, and three 75-mm SP guns were lined up for inspection. Night alarms, after which the troops left the installation, were frequently given. Record firing with mortars was done at the drill field. Motor vehicles in the billeting area included trucks, jeep driven by soldiers with black-bordered red epaulets; trucks each towing a 45-mm AT gun; truck ambulance jeep and truck which stood beside SP gun No 921. motor vehicles were no longer present.

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3. The Artillerie Kaserne on Zaderastrasse still quarters an AT artillery unit of 80 to 150 men and a signal unit of 60 to 100 men. Nine trucks [ ] towing 75-mm AT guns left the installation in the direction of Syrau-Mehlteuer. [ ] the AT artillery unit had twelve of these guns. The signal unit received several new signal trucks, however, they did not leave the installation. Motor vehicles of the signal unit [ ] \*
4. At the end of February and the beginning of March, Soviet troops held field exercises along the road to Syrau-Mehlteuer, about 6 km from Plauen; in the woods near Schleiz; and in the woods at Mehlteuer and Muehltorff. These troops allegedly included artillery and AT artillery units from Plauen, and tank units which source believed to have come from Saalfeld or Rudolstadt. The troops were bivouacked in the woods and did not use any billets in that area. \*\*
- \* [ ] Comment. The information indicates no changes in the occupation of the barracks installations in Plauen. 50X1-HUM
- \*\* [ ] Comment. At the beginning of April 1951, major field exercises were also conducted in the zonal border area between Hildburghausen and Meiningen. This is part of the billeting area of the 39th Gds Rifle Div. 50X1-HUM

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